

## Message Text

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ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 SYE-00 ICAE-00 PA-01  
CA-01 VO-05 INSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 INRE-00  
SSO-00 NSCE-00 MCT-01 SS-15 CTME-00 EUR-12 /071 W  
-----127618 051757Z /41

O 051723Z APR 78 ZFF4  
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
TO AMEMBASSY LONDON NIACT IMMEDIATE  
SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7612  
INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

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DEPT FOR A/SY/CC, A/SY/PRS; ICA FOR IOS, NEA;  
LONDON FOR RSO; NAIROBI FOR RSS

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: ASEC  
SUBJ: TRAVEL OF ARMED GOE POLICE OFFICER

REF: (A) CAIRO 9254, (B) USIA 8645, (C) CAIRO 09998

1. EDITOR OF AL-AKBAR NEWSPAPER, MUSTAFA AMIN,  
HAS BEEN INVITED TO COLUMBIA, MISSOURI TO RECEIVE  
AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN JOURNALISM FROM UNIVERSITY  
OF MISSOURI SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM (UMSJ). REFTEL A  
REPORTED THAT GOE SECURITY ADVISED AMIN NOT TO  
TRAVEL TO U.S. BECAUSE OF THEIR CONCERN FOR SAFETY  
OF PROMINENT SUPPORTERS OF SADAT FOLLOWING THE  
SIBAI ASSASSINATION IN NICOSIA. REFTEL B REPORTED  
THAT DEAN FISHER OF UMSJ WOULD CONTACT AMIN AND  
PLEDGED APPROPRIATE PROTECTION BY STATE AND LOCAL  
POLICE. REFTEL C ADVISED THAT AMIN CONFIRMED THAT  
HE WOULD TRAVEL TO THE UNITED STATES AND PROVIDED  
USICA WITH HIS TRAVEL ITINERARY TO THE U.S.

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2. MUSTAFA AMIN IS NOT A GOE OFFICIAL, HOWEVER,  
HE IS A SENIOR AND INFLUENTIAL NEWSPAPER EDITOR.  
FURTHER, HE IS A PERSONAL FRIEND OF GOE PRESIDENT  
SADAT AND A VOCAL SUPPORTER OF HIS PEACE MOVEMENT.  
AMIN IS A CO-FOUNDER OF AL-AKBAR PUBLISHING HOUSE,  
A POWERFUL NEWS ORGAN IN EGYPT. HIS SUPPORT FOR

SADAT'S POLICIES HAVE EARNED HIM THE ENMITY OF ARAB EXTREMISTS AND, BECAUSE OF A JANUARY 1978 EDITORIAL IN WHICH HE DESCRIBED GOI PRIME MINISTER BEGIN AS A "SHYLOCK," HAS BEEN DESCRIBED AS ANTI-SEMITIC. AMIN, THEREFORE, COULD BE CONSIDERED AS A POSSIBLE TARGET FOR ARAB EXTREMISTS AND A POSSIBLE FOCUS FOR DEMONSTRATIONS BY EXTREMIST, ZIONIST GROUPS IN THE UNITED STATES.

3. SINCE AMIN HAS DECIDED TO ACCEPT THE INVITATION AND ATTEND THE CEREMONY AT UMSJ, THE GOE HAS DECIDED TO SEND AN ARMED POLICE OFFICER WITH AMIN. (RSO BELIEVES THIS IS BEING DONE DUE TO THE ASSASSINATION OF SIBEI WHO, ALTHOUGH OFFERED A GOE POLICE BODY-GUARD, TRAVELED WITHOUT ONE).

4. AT 1100 HOURS, APRIL 5, COLONEL MOHAMED RETA METAWA (ALSO SPELLED METAWEH) WAS TASKED WITH ACCOMPANYING AMIN TO THE U.S. METAWAH IS A POLICE OFFICER ASSIGNED TO THE STATE SECURITY DEPARTMENT AND IS IN CHARGE OF ASSISTING AMERICANS. HE IS THIS OFFICE'S DIRECT CONTACT FOR ALL POLICE ASSISTANCE IN CAIRO AND HAS BEEN THE MAIN SUPPORT IN ALL THE SECRETARY'S VISITS AND THE VISIT BY PRESIDENT CARTER. IN FACT, METAWA IN JANUARY 1978 ON ONE HOUR'S NOTICE, PROVIDED A POLICE OFFICER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ESCORT TO ASSIST THE RSO, SY AGENTS, AND SECRET SERVICE AGENTS IN ASWAN WITH SECURITY COORDINATION FOR THE PRESIDENT; AND EARLIER IN AUGUST 1977, ACCOMPANIED RSO BRAY TO ALEXANDRIA TO COORDINATE ALL GOE SECURITY COVERAGE FOR SECRETARY VANCE.

5. METAWA, ALTHOUGH A GOE POLICE OFFICER, IS TRAVELING ON A NORMAL, NON-DIPLOMATIC, EGYPTIAN TOURIST PASSPORT. METAWA WILL BEE ARMED WITH A GOE-OWNED, .38 CALIBER, S&W PISTOL, SERIAL NUMBER 93460. HIS GOE POLICE CREDENTIAL NUMBER IS 3864. THE PHOTOGRAPHS ON HIS PASSPORT AND CREDENTIAL ARE IN POLICE UNIFORM. HE DOES NOT HAVE AN OFFICIAL OR DIPLOMATIC PASSPORT AS GOE POLICE ARE NOT NORMALLY ISSUED SUCH, AND HE WAS ONLY ALERTED AT 1100 THIS MORNING TO HIS DEPARTURE AT 1750 THIS EVENING. METAWA SPEAKS AND UNDERSTANDS ENGLISH WELL IN FACE-TO-FACE CONVERSATION, BUT DOES HAVE DIFFICULTY IN TELEPHONE CONVERSATIONS IN ENGLISH.

6. RSO MET WITH COLONEL METAWA AND ATTEMPTED TO

DISSUADE HIM FROM TAKING HIS WEAPON, BUT WAS ADVISED BY METAWA THAT HE HAD OFFICIAL ORDERS TO DO SO AND INFERRED THAT AMERICAN SECURITY OFFICERS CARRY WEAPONS IN EGYPT IN BODYGUARD DUTIES. THE RSO ATTEMPTED TO EXPLAIN THAT WE ALSO CARRY DIPLOMATIC PASSPORTS AND PROTECT USG OFFICIALS RATHER THAN PRIVATE CITIZENS, BUT HE POLITELY INSISTED THAT THEY RECOGNIZE OUR CREDENTIALS AND MISSION AND REQUESTED THAT RSO REQUEST THE SAME RECOGNITION FOR HIM IN HIS OFFICIAL DUTIES. THE RSO AGREED TO REQUEST SY TO ALERT LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND REQUEST ASSISTANCE ON HIS ARRIVAL IN NEW YORK AND ST. LOUIS.

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7. RSO REALIZED THAT SY WOULD NOT PROVIDE A FULL-TIME DETAIL OR AGENT TO THIS MISSION; HOW-

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ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 SYE-00 ICAE-00 PA-01  
CA-01 VO-05 INSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 INRE-00  
SSO-00 NSCE-00 SS-15 MCT-01 CTME-00 EUR-12 /071 W  
-----127669 051756Z /41

O 051723Z APR 78 ZFF4  
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
TO AMEMBASSY LONDON NIACT IMMEDIATE  
SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7613  
INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

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DEPT FOR A/SY/CC, A/SY/PRS; ICA FOR IOS, NEA;  
LONDON FOR RSO; NAIROBI FOR RSS

EVER, REQUESTS THAT SY ASSIST METAWA IN ENTERING  
AND DEPARTING NEW YORK, ENTERING AND DEPARTING

ST. LOUIS AND SIMILAR ASSISTANCE IN WASHINGTON  
AND LEAVING NEW YORK FOR RETURN TO EGYPT.

8. METAWA AND AMIN'S ITINERARY IS AS FOLLOWS:  
1235, THURSDAY, APRIL 6: ARRIVE NEW YORK AT  
KENNEDY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT VIA BA 175 FROM LONDON.  
1830, THURSDAY, APRIL 6: DEPART NEW YORK AT  
KENNEDY VIA TWA 069 FOR ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.  
2005, THURSDAY, APRIL 6: ARRIVE ST. LOUIS  
2120, THURSDAY, APRIL 6: DEPART ST. LOUIS VIA  
OZARK 967 FOR COLUMBIA, MISSOURI.  
2150, THURSDAY, APRIL 6: ARRIVE COLUMBIA.

9. THE ABOVE SCHEDULE IS IN VARIANCE TO THAT  
LISTED IN REFTTEL C; HOWEVER, RSO VERIFIED IT BY  
REVIEWING AIRLINE TICKETS.

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10. AMIN AND METAWA PLANNING ON BEING IN U.S.  
FOR APPROXIMATELY TWENTY DAYS, AS AMIN SCHEDULED  
TO MEET WITH AMERICAN NEWSPAPER EDITORS IN WASH-  
INGTON AND EDITOR OF TIME MAGAZINE IN NEW YORK.  
SCHEDULE FOR THESE VISITS AND ONWARD SCHEDULE FROM  
COLUMBIA, MISSOURI IS OPEN.

11. RSO PROVIDED METAWA WITH SY TELEPHONE NUMBERS  
IN NY, ST. LOUIS, CHICAGO AND SY/CC, SY/PRS AND  
SY/PRS/FOREIGN DIGNATARY PROTECTION IN WASHINGTON.

12. RSO AND POST WOULD APPRECIATE ANY ASSISTANCE,  
PARTICULARLY MEET AND ASSIST, IN NEW YORK UPON  
ARRIVAL AND LIAISON WITH LOCAL AUTHORITIES IN  
AREAS OF VISIT BY AMIN. THIS LIMITED ASSISTANCE  
WILL BE GREATLY APPRECIATED BY METAWA AND REPAY,  
IN PART, HIS MANY INSTANCES OF SUPPORT TO US ON  
VIP VISITS AND MORE ORDINARY PROTECTIVE DETAIL  
ASSIGNMENTS.

13. SHOULD SY FORESEE UNSOLVABLE PROBLEMS WITH  
METAWA ENTERING THE U.S. ARMED, REQUEST SY  
INFORM RSO LONDON, WHO COULD CONTACT THE GOE  
EMBASSY IN LONDON AND ADVISE METAWA NOT TO TAKE  
WEAPON TO U.S.

14. POST REQUESTS SY COORDINATE WITH STATE  
NEA/EGY, ICA/NEA AND NEW YORK RECEPTION CENTER ON  
ABOVE ARRANGEMENTS.

15. FOR RSO LONDON: APOLOGIZE FOR INVOLVING

RSO LONDON IN THIS PROBLEM; HOWEVER, COLONEL  
METAWA OR HIS SUPERVISORS WERE ADAMANT ON WEAPON  
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REQUIREMENT AND COULD NOT BE TALKED OUT OF IT BY  
THIS OFFICE.

16. THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR ANY ASSISTANCE  
PROVIDED. EILTS

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
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20 Mar 2014  
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